ENTER A NEW WORLD OF ADVENTURE!
Archie COMICS
SEGA
ISSUE 254
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS!
PART TWO
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Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

PREVIOUSLY...

SONIC IS THE FASTEST, COOLEST HERO ALIVE!

After foiling Dr. Eggman's plans, both Sonic and Eggman woke up back in their home world, but with new memories – and a new past, altered by the reality-warping Genesis Wave!

The artificial intelligence known as NICOLE holds the key to what has happened, and by interacting with the heroic Freedom Fighters she has begun to "defragment" this new world, beginning with a newly revitalized ROTOR THE WALRUS!

While Sonic and Tails put the team back together, Dr. Eggman is struggling to make his way home to the Death Egg. He's made a startling discovery about the planet,

and it's got him running scared...

WHO'S WHO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
FASTEST THING ALIVE

MILES "TAILS" PROWER
SONIC'S BEST BUD

DR. EGGMAN
SONIC'S MAD SCIENTIST NEMESIS

???

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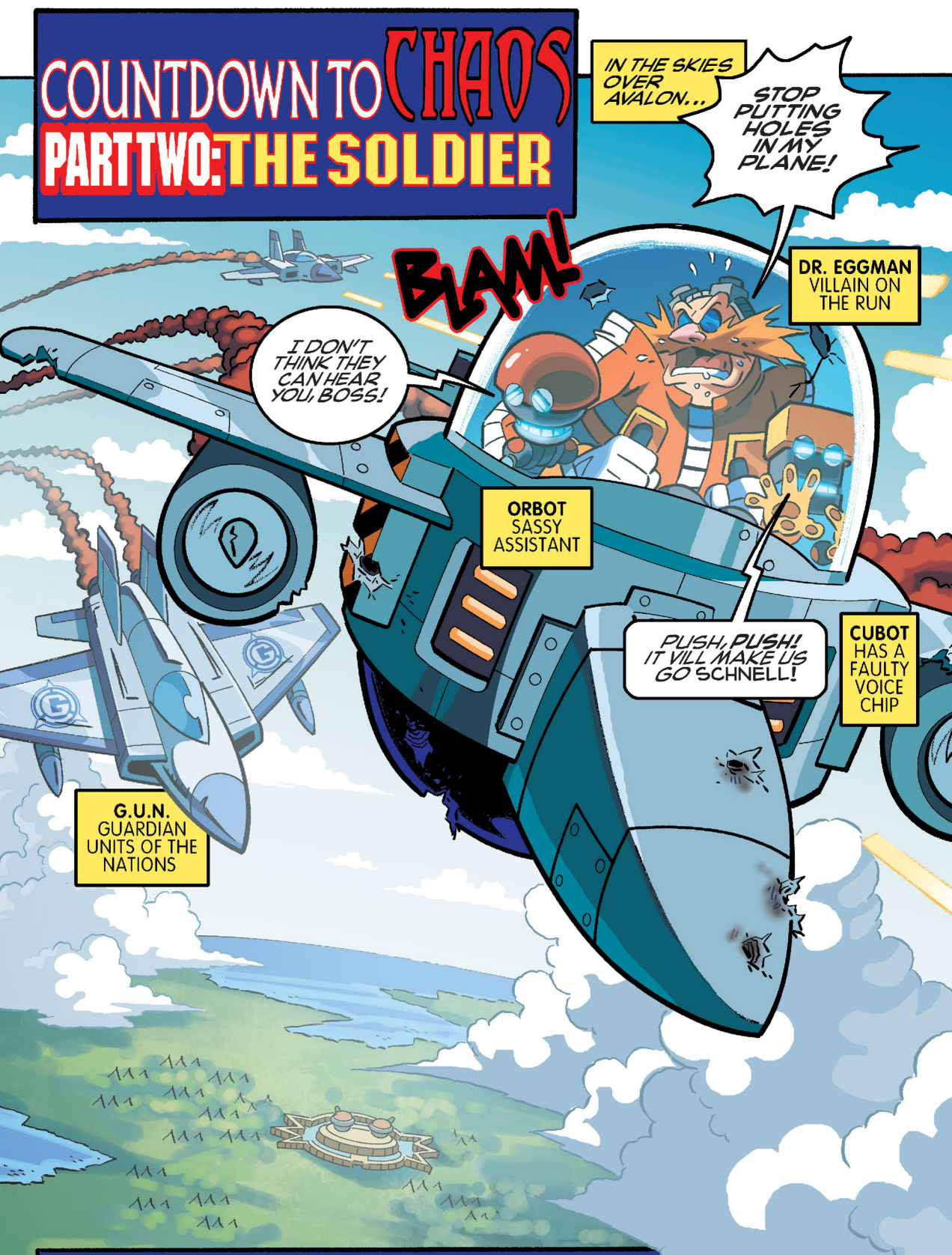
COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS
PART TWO: THE SOLDIER
IN THE SKIES OVER AVALON...
STOP PUTTING HOLES IN MY PLANE!
BLAM!
DR. EGGMAN VILLAIN ON THE RUN
I DON'T THINK THEY CAN HEAR YOU, BOSS!
ORBOT SASSY ASSISTANT
PUSH, PUSH! IT VILL MAKE US GO SCHNELL!
CUBOT HAS A FAULTY VOICE CHIP
G.U.N. GUARDIAN UNITS OF THE NATIONS

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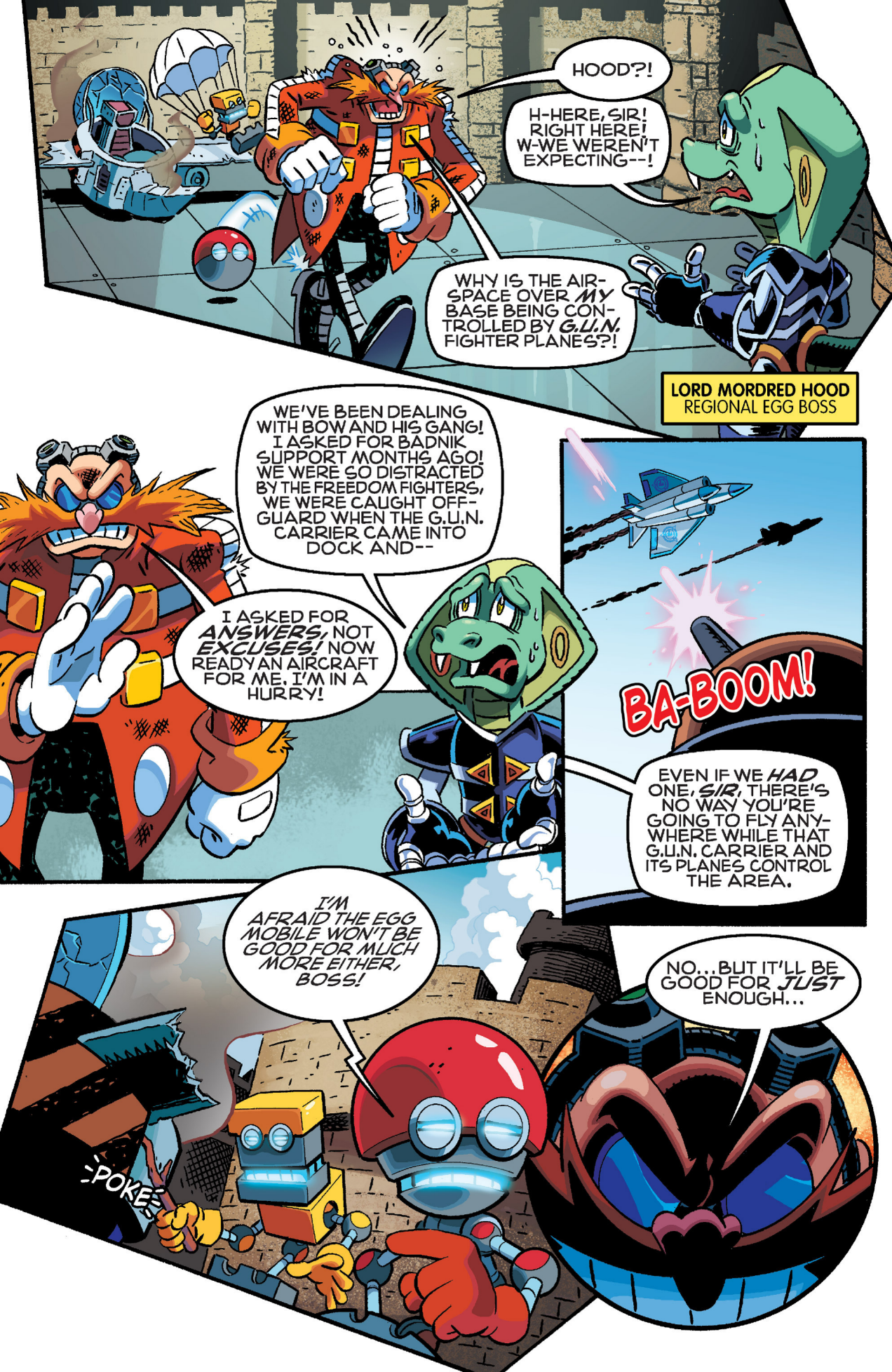
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
CRASH!
SCREEEEEEECH
HOOD! FRONT AND CENTER!
WE'RE ALIVE. I'M STILL PROCESSING IF I'M HAPPY ABOUT THAT...


HOOD?!
H-HERE, SIR! RIGHT HERE! W-WE WEREN'T EXPECTING--!
WHY IS THE AIR-SPACE OVER MY BASE BEING CON-TROLLED BY G.U.N. FIGHTER PLANES?!
LORD MORDRED HOOD
REGIONAL EGG BOSS
WE'VE BEEN DEALING WITH BOW AND HIS GANG! I ASKED FOR BADNIK SUPPORT MONTHS AGO! WE WERE SO DISTRACTED BY THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, WE WERE CAUGHT OFF-GUARD WHEN THE G.U.N. CARRIER CAME INTO DOCK AND--
I ASKED FOR ANSWERS, NOT EXCUSES! NOW READY AN AIRCRAFT FOR ME. I'M IN A HURRY!
BA-BOOM!
EVEN IF WE HAD ONE, SIR, THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GOING TO FLY ANY-WHERE WHILE THAT G.U.N. CARRIER AND ITS PLANES CONTROL THE AREA.
I'M AFRAID THE EGG MOBILE WON'T BE GOOD FOR MUCH MORE EITHER, BOSS!
NO...BUT IT'LL BE GOOD FOR JUST ENOUGH...
:POKE:

OUTSIDE KNOTHOLE VILLAGE: WOOD ZONE, WESTSIDE ISLAND...

SONIC
TRUE BLUE HERO

TAILS
HIGH-FLYING GENIUS

THAT ...THAT WAS *NICE.*

IT WAS KNOTHOLE. NOT *OUR* KNOT-HOLE, BUT...

YEAH, IT'S CLOSE ENOUGH. IF KNOTHOLE CAN GET A SECOND CHANCE, MAYBE WE CAN, TOO.

IF WE'RE GOING TO DO *ANY-THING,* WE NEED TO FIND THE OTHER HALF OF OUR TEAM.

SOONER RATHER THAN LATER, I'D =VVT!=

SOUR RESTORED RESTORED WOOD ZONE UNDER-COVER UNDER-COVER M.I.A.

NICOLE
SUPER COMPUTER

HOLD THAT THOUGHT...

HEY THERE, SONNY-BOY! TAILS! FEELS LIKE I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN--

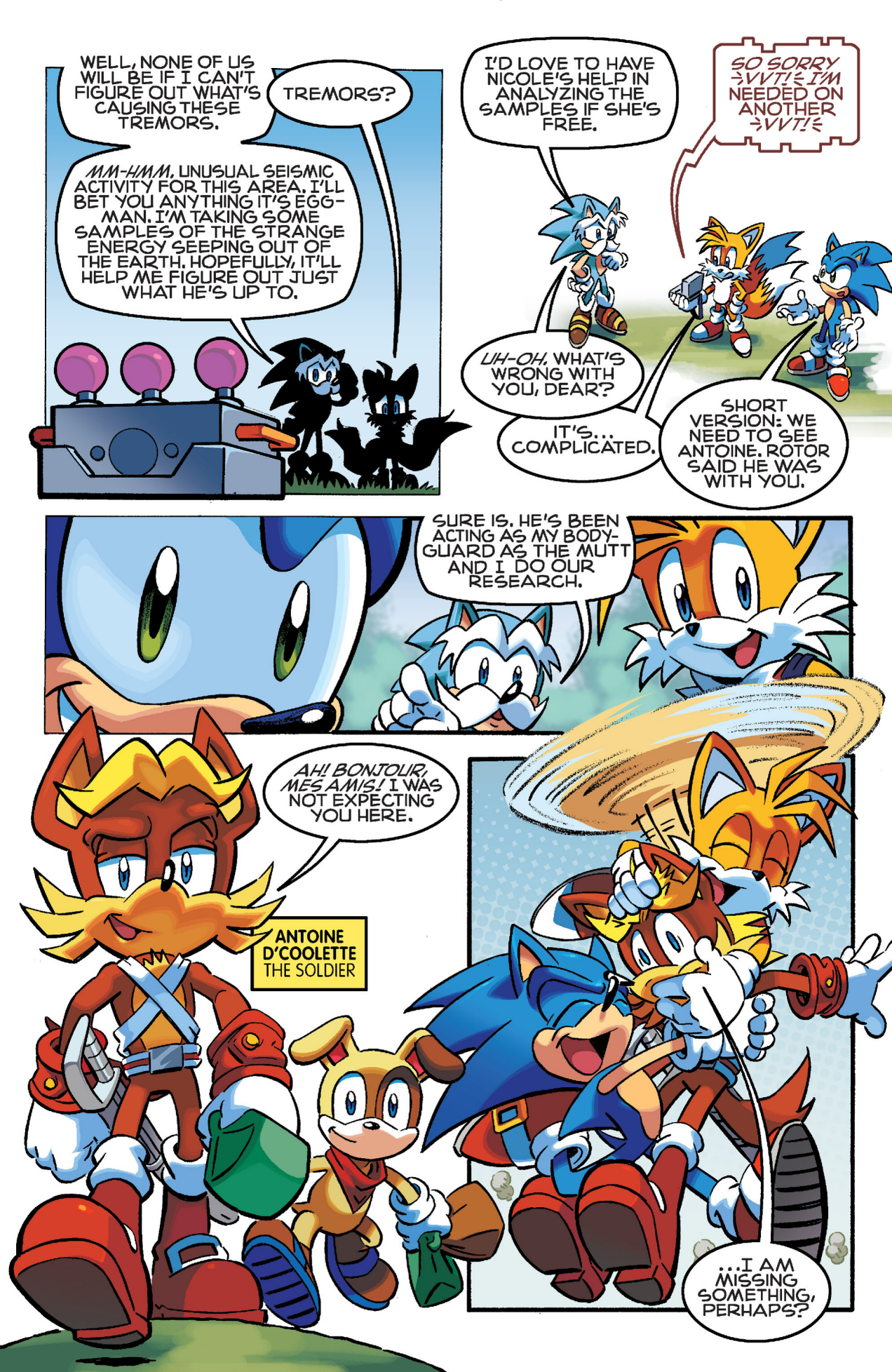
DR. CHUCK THE HEDGEHOG
"UNCLE" TO MANY

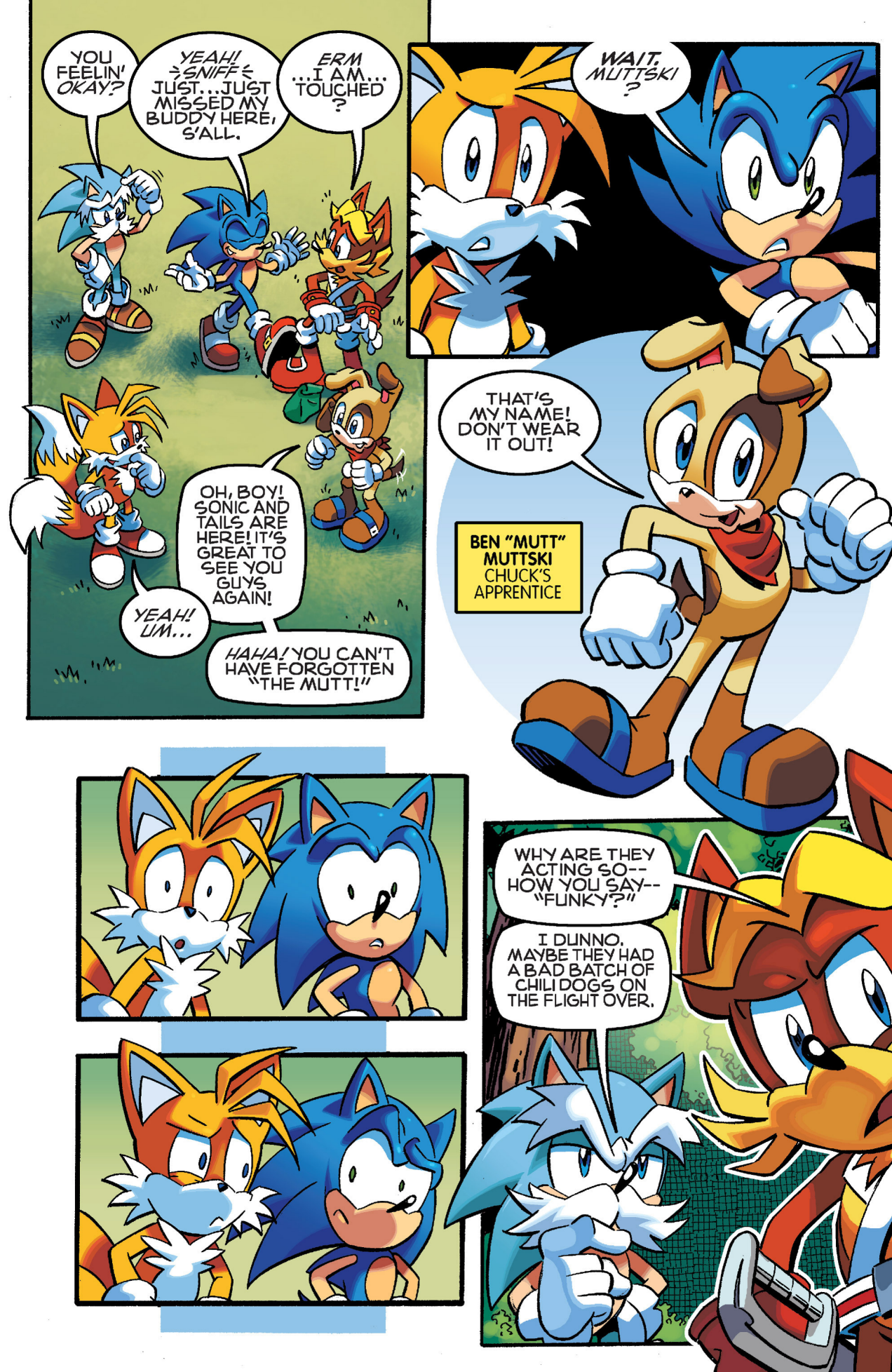
--FOR-EVER?

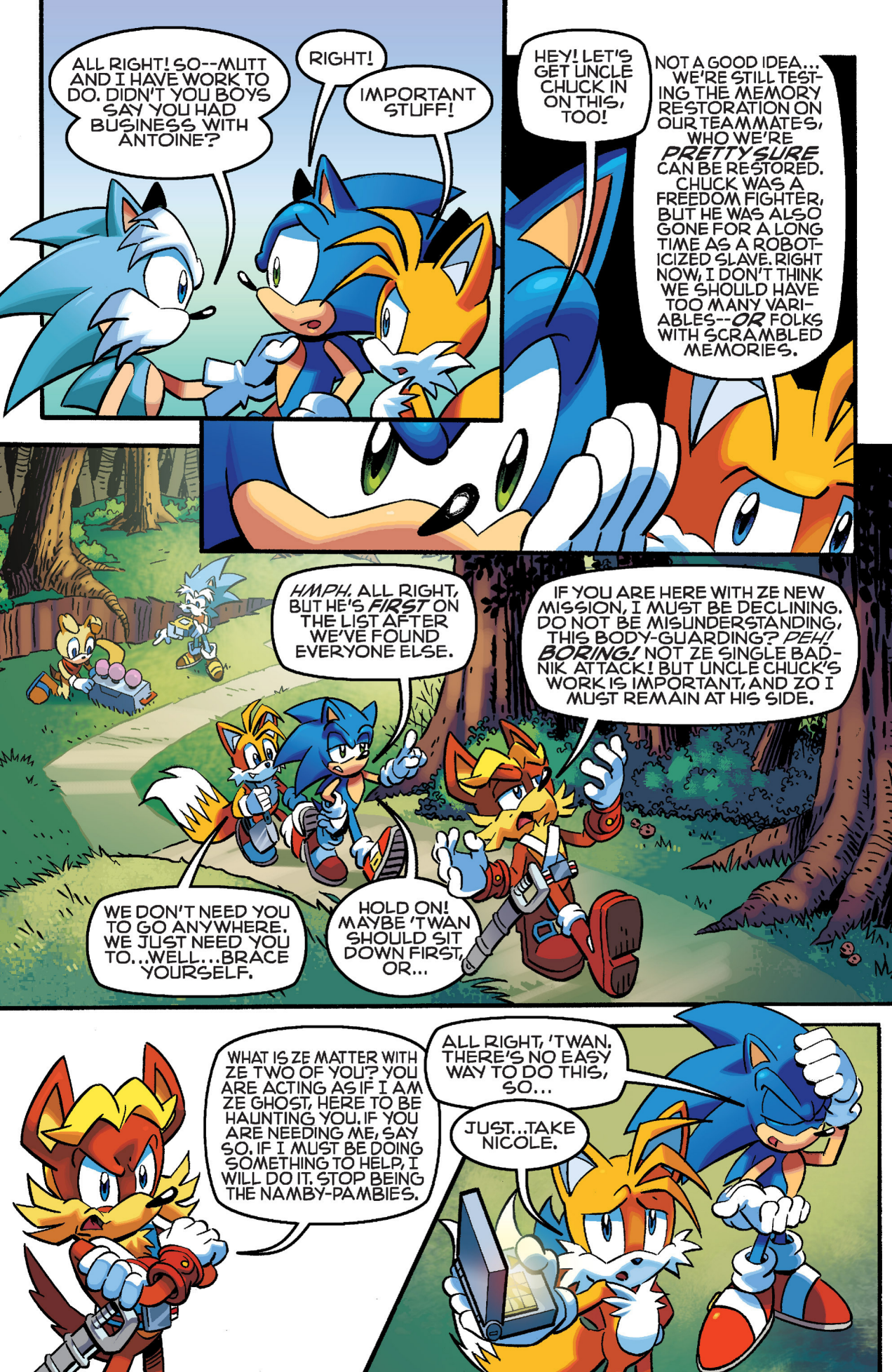
SALLY'S NOT A ROBOT, KNOTHOLE'S STILL STAND-ING, AND UNCLE CHUCK'S STILL AROUND. MAYBE THIS WHOLE "NEW REALITY" THING ISN'T SO BAD...

HA! WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

NOTHIN', UNCLE CHUCK. JUST HAPPY TO SEE YOU SAFE AND SOUND.

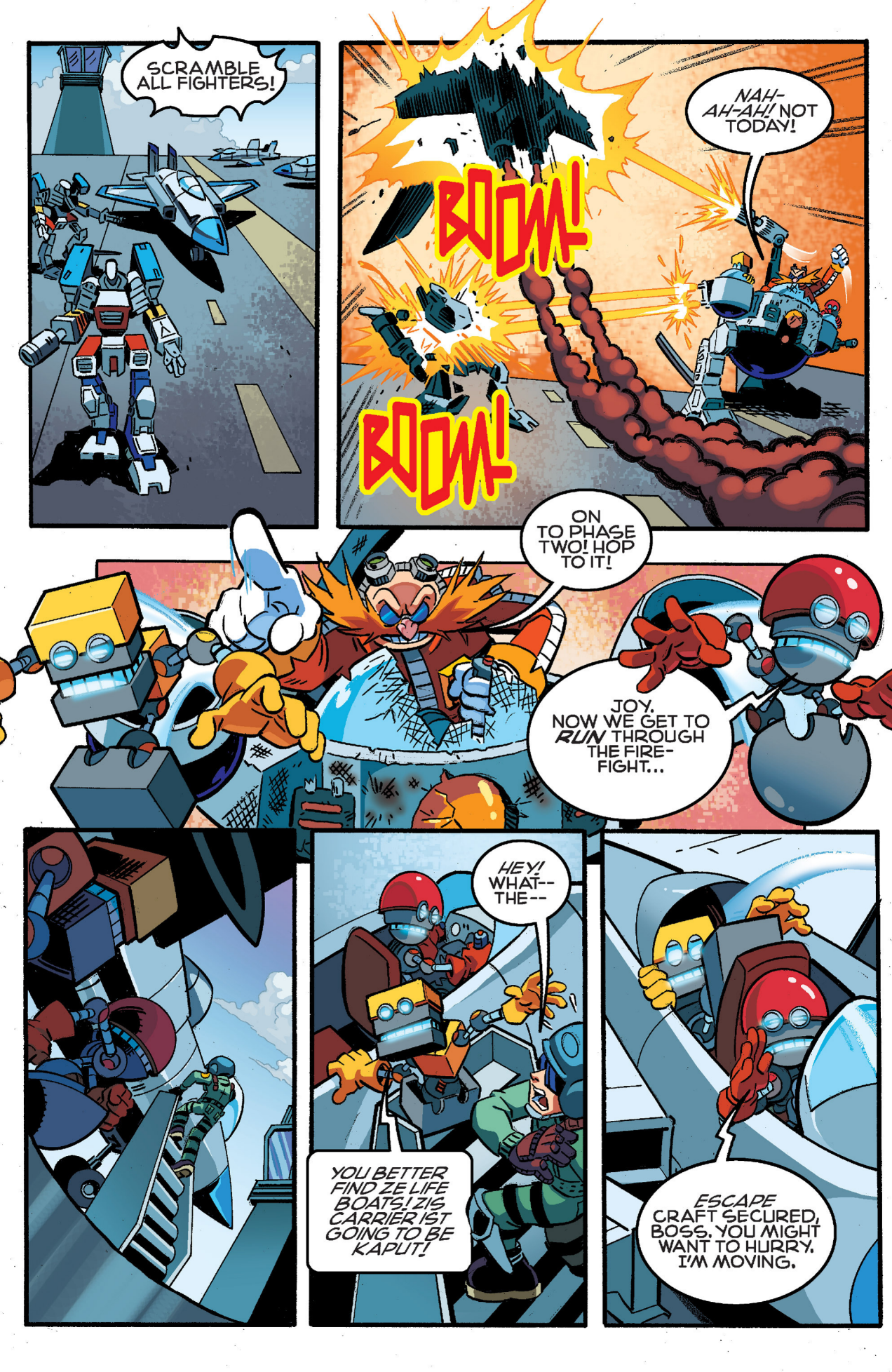

WELL, NONE OF US WILL BE IF I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT'S CAUSING THESE TREMORS.
TREMORS?
MM-HMM. UNUSUAL SEISMIC ACTIVITY FOR THIS AREA. I'LL BET YOU ANYTHING IT'S EGG-MAN. I'M TAKING SOME SAMPLES OF THE STRANGE ENERGY SEEPING OUT OF THE EARTH. HOPEFULLY, IT'LL HELP ME FIGURE OUT JUST WHAT HE'S UP TO.
I'D LOVE TO HAVE NICOLE'S HELP IN ANALYZING THE SAMPLES IF SHE'S FREE.
SO SORRY ZVT! I'M NEEDED ON ANOTHER ZVT!
UH-OH. WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, DEAR?
IT'S... COMPLICATED.
SHORT VERSION: WE NEED TO SEE ANTOINE. ROTOR SAID HE WAS WITH YOU.
SURE IS. HE'S BEEN ACTING AS MY BODY-GUARD AS THE MUTT AND I DO OUR RESEARCH.
AH! BONJOUR, MES AMIS! I WAS NOT EXPECTING YOU HERE.
ANTOINE D'COOLETTE THE SOLDIER
...I AM MISSING SOMETHING, PERHAPS?


YOU FEELIN' OKAY?
YEAH! ÷SNIFF÷ JUST...JUST MISSED MY BUDDY HERE, S'ALL.
ERM ...I AM... TOUCHED ?
OH, BOY! SONIC AND TAILS ARE HERE! IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU GUYS AGAIN!
YEAH! UM...
HAHA! YOU CAN'T HAVE FORGOTTEN "THE MUTT!"
WAIT. MUTTSKI ?
THAT'S MY NAME! DON'T WEAR IT OUT!
BEN "MUTT" MUTTSKI CHUCK'S APPRENTICE
WHY ARE THEY ACTING SO-- HOW YOU SAY-- "FUNKY?"
I DUNNO. MAYBE THEY HAD A BAD BATCH OF CHILI DOGS ON THE FLIGHT OVER.

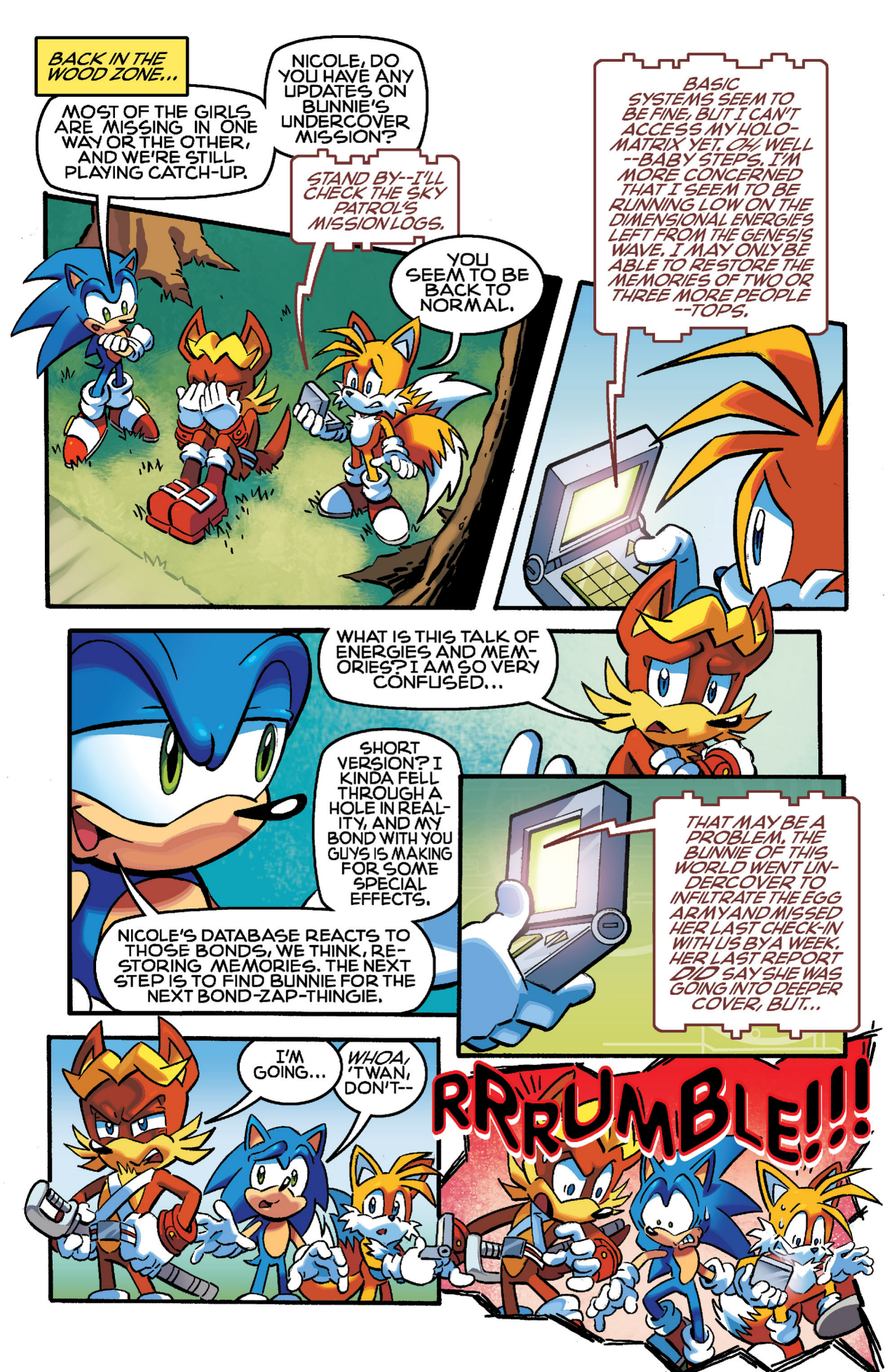

ALL RIGHT! SO--MUTT AND I HAVE WORK TO DO. DIDN'T YOU BOYS SAY YOU HAD BUSINESS WITH ANTOINE?
RIGHT!
IMPORTANT STUFF!
HEY! LET'S GET UNCLE CHUCK IN ON THIS, TOO!
NOT A GOOD IDEA... WE'RE STILL TESTING THE MEMORY RESTORATION ON OUR TEAMMATES, WHO WE'RE PRETTY SURE CAN BE RESTORED. CHUCK WAS A FREEDOM FIGHTER, BUT HE WAS ALSO GONE FOR A LONG TIME AS A ROBOTICIZED SLAVE. RIGHT NOW, I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD HAVE TOO MANY VARIABLES--OR FOLKS WITH SCRAMBLED MEMORIES.
HMPH. ALL RIGHT, BUT HE'S FIRST ON THE LIST AFTER WE'VE FOUND EVERYONE ELSE.
IF YOU ARE HERE WITH ZE NEW MISSION, I MUST BE DECLINING. DO NOT BE MISUNDERSTANDING, THIS BODY-GUARDING? PEH! BORING! NOT ZE SINGLE BADNIK ATTACK! BUT UNCLE CHUCK'S WORK IS IMPORTANT, AND ZO I MUST REMAIN AT HIS SIDE.
WE DON'T NEED YOU TO GO ANYWHERE. WE JUST NEED YOU TO...WELL...BRACE YOURSELF.
HOLD ON! MAYBE 'TWAN SHOULD SIT DOWN FIRST, OR...
WHAT IS ZE MATTER WITH ZE TWO OF YOU? YOU ARE ACTING AS IF I AM ZE GHOST, HERE TO BE HAUNTING YOU. IF YOU ARE NEEDING ME, SAY SO. IF I MUST BE DOING SOMETHING TO HELP, I WILL DO IT. STOP BEING THE NAMBY-PAMBIES.
ALL RIGHT, 'TWAN. THERE'S NO EASY WAY TO DO THIS, SO...
JUST...TAKE NICOLE.

...MON DIEU...
EASY, BUDDY, I'VE GOTCHA.
(TOLDJA TO SIT DOWN FIRST.)
I WAS... I WAS...
HURT, THAT'S ALL. BAD? YEAH, IN A COMA? SURE. BUT YOU WERE ALIVE AND YOU WERE GONNA RECOVER.
SONIC GOT YOU TO THE HOSPITAL JUST IN TIME.
RIGHT! YOU'RE A FIGHTER! YOU HELD ON AND --!
UHT-TUT-TUT-TUT! PLEASE, MES AMIS...
MY THOUGHTS...THEY ARE JUMBLED. WHERE IS BUNNIE? HOW IS MY WIFE?

MEANWHILE...
DYO-HO-HO! THOSE G.U.N. FOOLS WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT 'EM!
I'M RIGHT HERE, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE HITTING THEM WITH.
SHUT IT! I'VE GOT TO GET TO THE DEATH EGG AS FAST AS POSSIBLE! IF THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO GO THROUGH G.U.N., SO BE IT!
JAWOHL, MEIN EMPEROR!
AWOOOGA!
AWOOOGA!
BOOM!
WAH-HA-HA-HA! COME AT ME, BOTS!
BLAM!
CLANG!


SCRAMBLE ALL FIGHTERS!
BOOM!
BOOM!
NAH-AH-AH! NOT TODAY!
ON TO PHASE TWO! HOP TO IT!
JOY. NOW WE GET TO RUN THROUGH THE FIRE-FIGHT...
HEY! WHAT-- THE--
YOU BETTER FIND ZE LIFE BOATS! ZIS CARRIER IST GOING TO BE KAPUT!
ESCAPE CRAFT SECURED, BOSS. YOU MIGHT WANT TO HURRY. I'M MOVING.

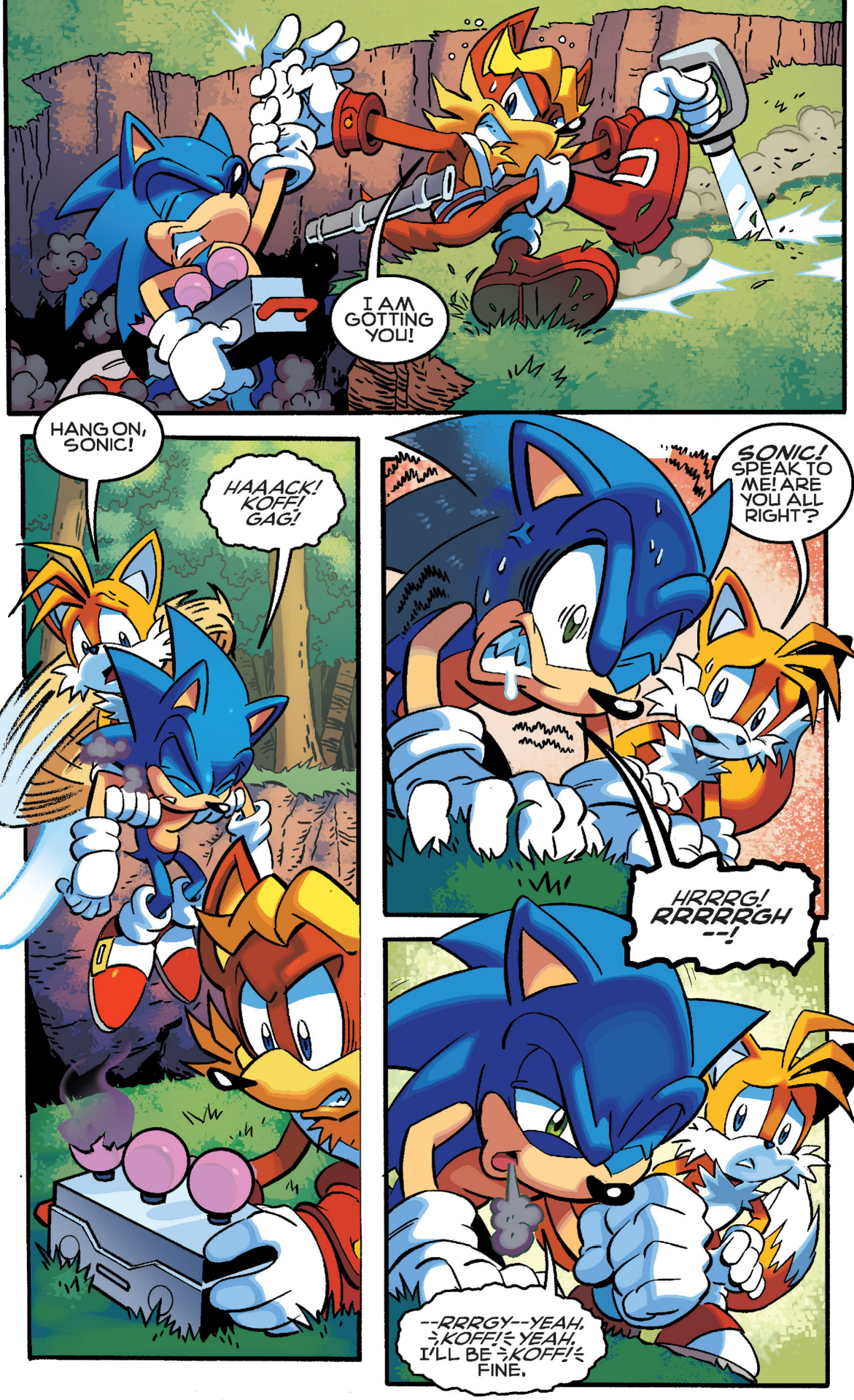
YOU'VE SERVED ME WELL, FAITHFUL EGG MOBILE. I SURE KNOW HOW TO BUILD 'EM!
AWOOOGA!
AWOOOGA!
BOOM!
I CAN CONFIRM THE COMMAND SIGNAL TO THE G.U.N. ARMORED UNITS IS DOWN. WE'RE IN THE CLEAR.
AND NOW YOU KNOW WHY I AM THE BEST!
HAHAHAHAHA!

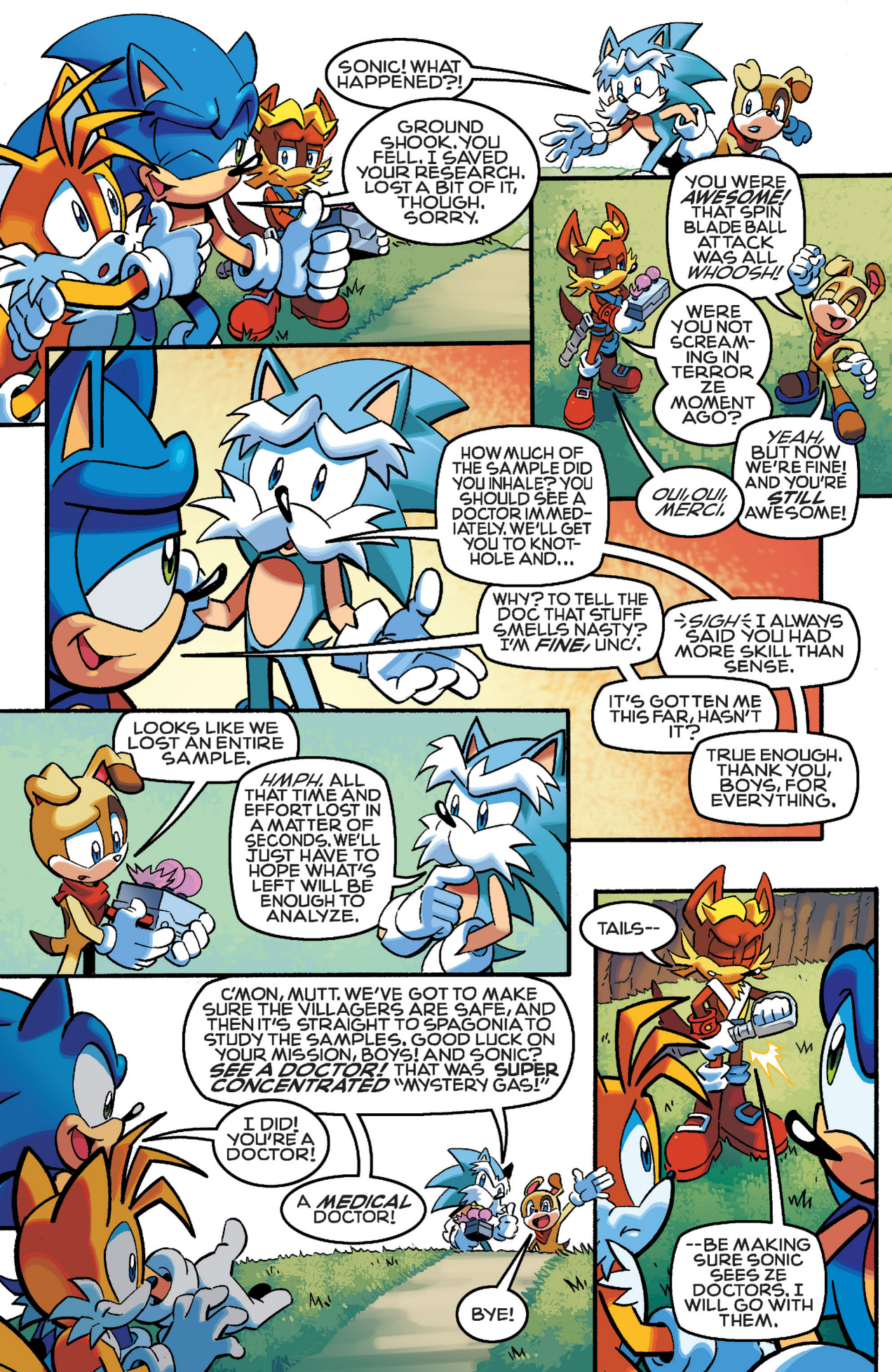

BACK IN THE WOOD ZONE...
MOST OF THE GIRLS ARE MISSING IN ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, AND WE'RE STILL PLAYING CATCH-UP.
NICOLE, DO YOU HAVE ANY UPDATES ON BUNNIE'S UNDERCOVER MISSION?
STAND BY--I'LL CHECK THE SKY PATROL'S MISSION LOGS.
YOU SEEM TO BE BACK TO NORMAL.
BASIC SYSTEMS SEEM TO BE FINE, BUT I CAN'T ACCESS MY HOLO-MATRIX YET. OH, WELL --BABY STEPS. I'M MORE CONCERNED THAT I SEEM TO BE RUNNING LOW ON THE DIMENSIONAL ENERGIES LEFT FROM THE GENESIS WAVE. I MAY ONLY BE ABLE TO RESTORE THE MEMORIES OF TWO OR THREE MORE PEOPLE --TOPS.
WHAT IS THIS TALK OF ENERGIES AND MEMORIES? I AM SO VERY CONFUSED...
SHORT VERSION? I KINDA FELL THROUGH A HOLE IN REALITY, AND MY BOND WITH YOU GUYS IS MAKING FOR SOME SPECIAL EFFECTS.
NICOLE'S DATABASE REACTS TO THOSE BONDS, WE THINK, RESTORING MEMORIES. THE NEXT STEP IS TO FIND BUNNIE FOR THE NEXT BOND-ZAP-THINGIE.
THAT MAY BE A PROBLEM. THE BUNNIE OF THIS WORLD WENT UNDERCOVER TO INFILTRATE THE EGG ARMY AND MISSED HER LAST CHECK-IN WITH US BY A WEEK. HER LAST REPORT DID SAY SHE WAS GOING INTO DEEPER COVER, BUT...
I'M GOING...
WHOA, 'TWAN, DON'T--
RRRUMBLE!!!

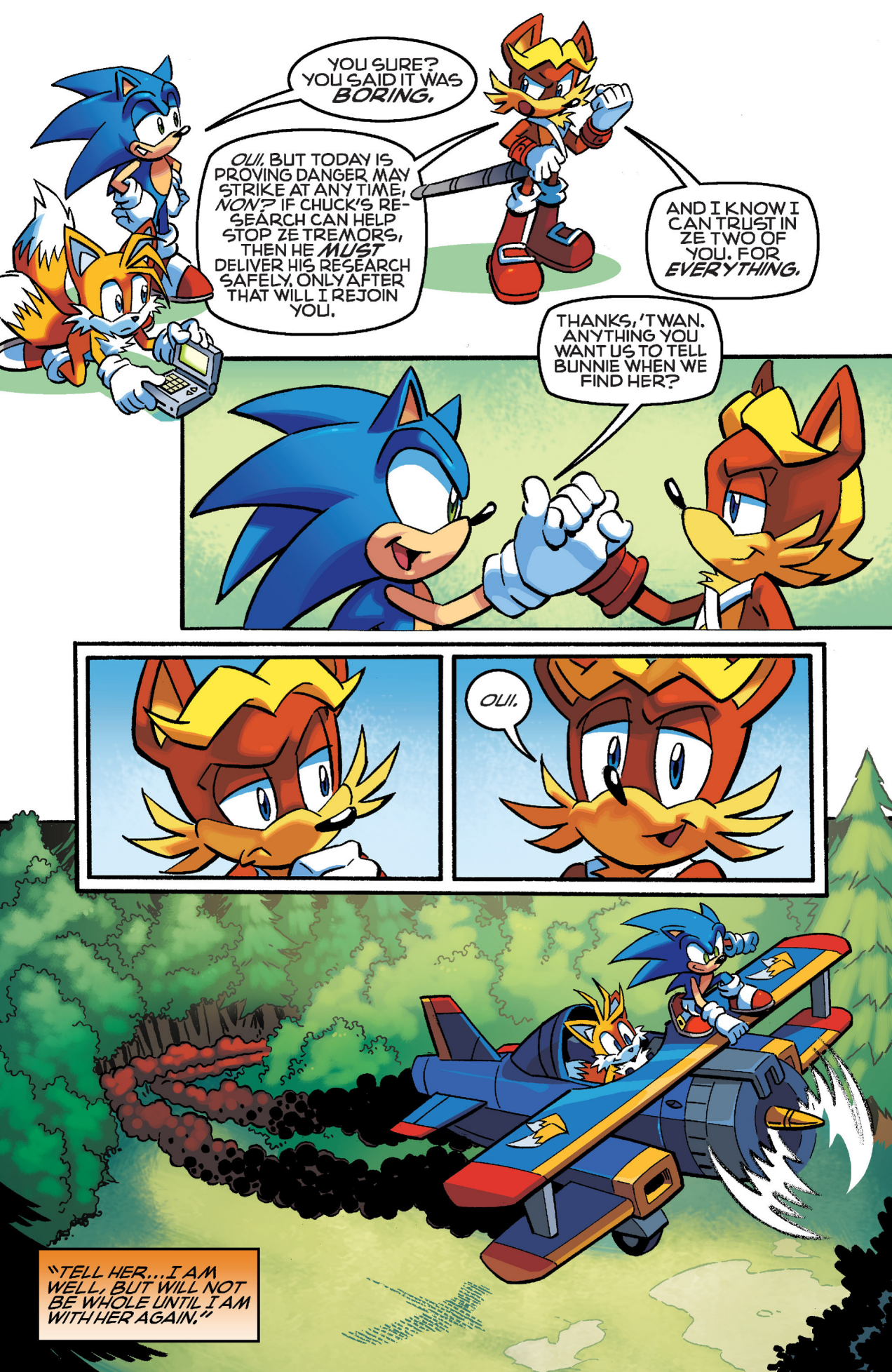
AAAAAH HHHHHHH!
SONIC! MY RESEARCH --!
PRIORITIES, UNC!
SHING!
GET 'EM TOPSIDE! I'M RIGHT BEHIND YA!

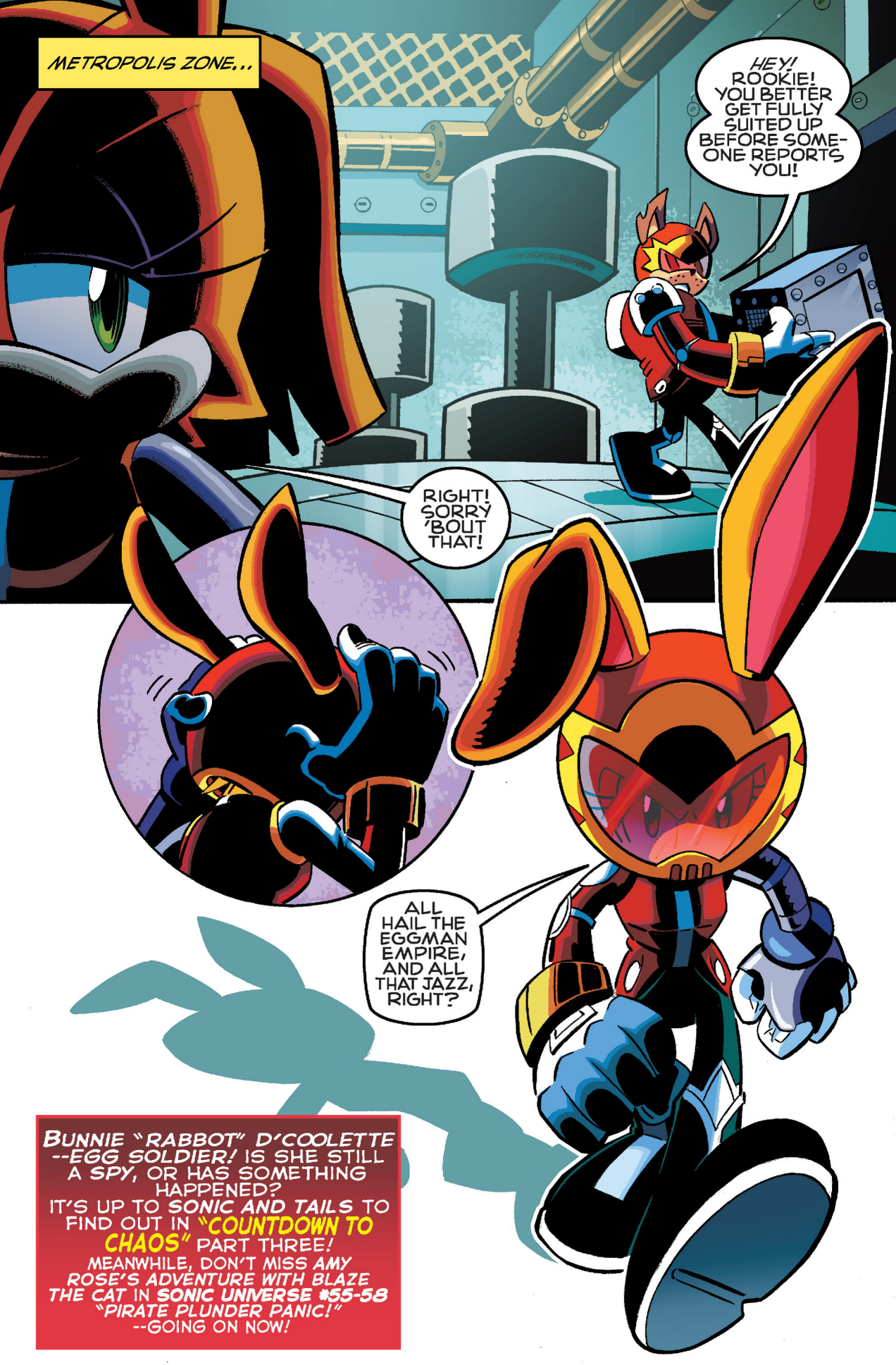
TAKE ZEM BOTH! I'LL CLEAR ZE WAY!
SHING!
TING!
TING!
TING!

GOTCHA! YOU BETTER BE WORTH IT!
GAK! KOFF! HACK!
CRASH!
GAG! HACK!


I AM GOTTING YOU!
HANG ON, SONIC!
HAAACK! KOFF! GAG!
SONIC! SPEAK TO ME! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HRRRG! RRRRRGH --!
--RRRGY--YEAH, =KOFF!= YEAH, I'LL BE =KOFF!= FINE.


SONIC! WHAT HAPPENED?!
GROUND SHOOK. YOU FELL. I SAVED YOUR RESEARCH. LOST A BIT OF IT, THOUGH. SORRY.
YOU WERE AWESOME! THAT SPIN BLADE BALL ATTACK WAS ALL WHOOSH!
WERE YOU NOT SCREAM-ING IN TERROR ZE MOMENT AGO?
YEAH, BUT NOW WE'RE FINE! AND YOU'RE STILL AWESOME!
OUI, OUI, MERCI.
HOW MUCH OF THE SAMPLE DID YOU INHALE? YOU SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR IMMED-IATELY. WE'LL GET YOU TO KNOT-HOLE AND...
WHY? TO TELL THE DOC THAT STUFF SMELLS NASTY? I'M FINE, UNC!.
-SIGH- I ALWAYS SAID YOU HAD MORE SKILL THAN SENSE.
IT'S GOTTEN ME THIS FAR, HASN'T IT?
TRUE ENOUGH. THANK YOU, BOYS, FOR EVERYTHING.
LOOKS LIKE WE LOST AN ENTIRE SAMPLE.
HMPH. ALL THAT TIME AND EFFORT LOST IN A MATTER OF SECONDS. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO HOPE WHAT'S LEFT WILL BE ENOUGH TO ANALYZE.
TAILS--
C'MON, MUTT. WE'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE THE VILLAGERS ARE SAFE, AND THEN IT'S STRAIGHT TO SPAGONIA TO STUDY THE SAMPLES. GOOD LUCK ON YOUR MISSION, BOYS! AND SONIC? SEE A DOCTOR! THAT WAS SUPER CONCENTRATED "MYSTERY GAS!"
I DID! YOU'RE A DOCTOR!
A MEDICAL DOCTOR!
BYE!
--BE MAKING SURE SONIC SEES ZE DOCTORS. I WILL GO WITH THEM.


YOU SURE? YOU SAID IT WAS BORING.
OUI, BUT TODAY IS PROVING DANGER MAY STRIKE AT ANY TIME, NON? IF CHUCK'S RESEARCH CAN HELP STOP ZE TREMORS, THEN HE MUST DELIVER HIS RESEARCH SAFELY. ONLY AFTER THAT WILL I REJOIN YOU.
AND I KNOW I CAN TRUST IN ZE TWO OF YOU. FOR EVERYTHING.
THANKS, 'TWAN. ANYTHING YOU WANT US TO TELL BUNNIE WHEN WE FIND HER?
OUI.
"TELL HER... I AM WELL, BUT WILL NOT BE WHOLE UNTIL I AM WITH HER AGAIN."


METROPOLIS ZONE...
HEY! ROOKIE! YOU BETTER GET FULLY SUITED UP BEFORE SOMEONE REPORTS YOU!
RIGHT! SORRY 'BOUT THAT!
ALL HAIL THE EGGMAN EMPIRE, AND ALL THAT JAZZ, RIGHT?

BUNNIE "RABBOT" D'COOLETTE --EGG SOLDIER! IS SHE STILL A SPY, OR HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED?
IT'S UP TO SONIC AND TAILS TO FIND OUT IN "COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS" PART THREE!
MEANWHILE, DON'T MISS AMY ROSE'S ADVENTURE WITH BLAZE THE CAT IN SONIC UNIVERSE #55-58 "PIRATE PLUNDER PANIC!"
--GOING ON NOW!